

Compliments of...

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# HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW







California State Assembly  
**GLORIA NEGRETE McLEOD**  
61ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**Dear Kids:**

Ever wonder how a law is made? If you ever thought that there ought to be a law to change things for the better, then you are in for a treat. The following coloring book shows you how a bill can become a new law.

Every year thousands of ideas to change existing or add new laws are presented in the State Legislature. These ideas are written on a paper that is then called a “bill.” Not all bills automatically become new laws. Bills need to be debated and voted on by your state representatives – Assemblymembers and Senators. If a bill passes all its committees and the Senate and the Assembly and is signed by the Governor, then it becomes a new law.

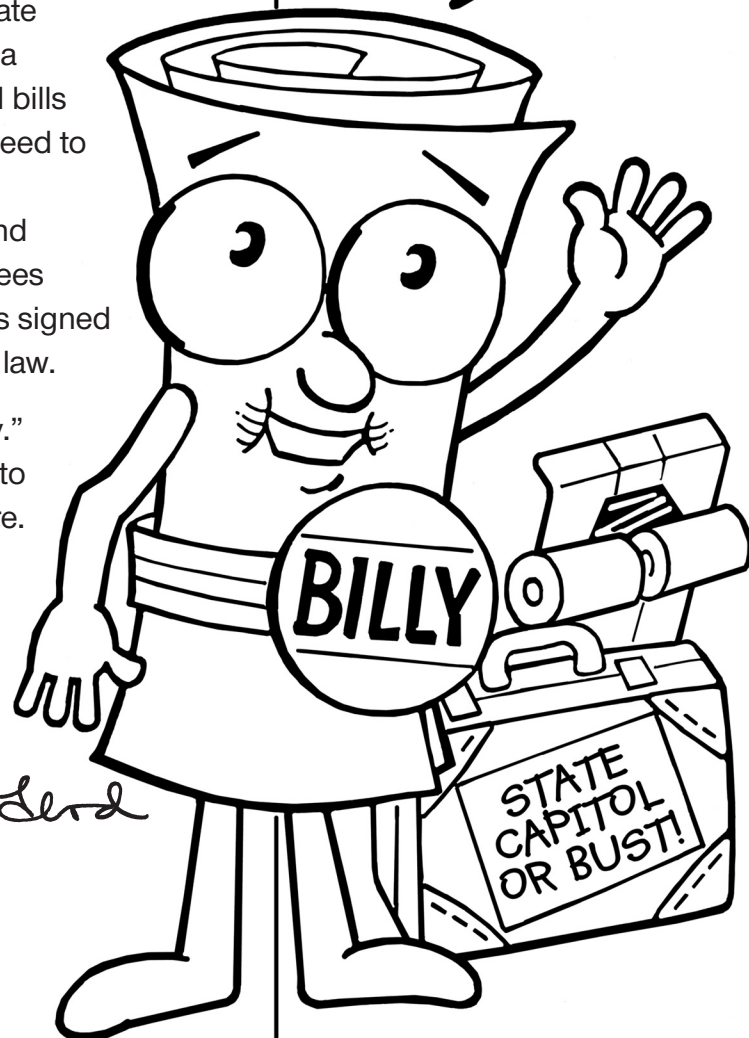
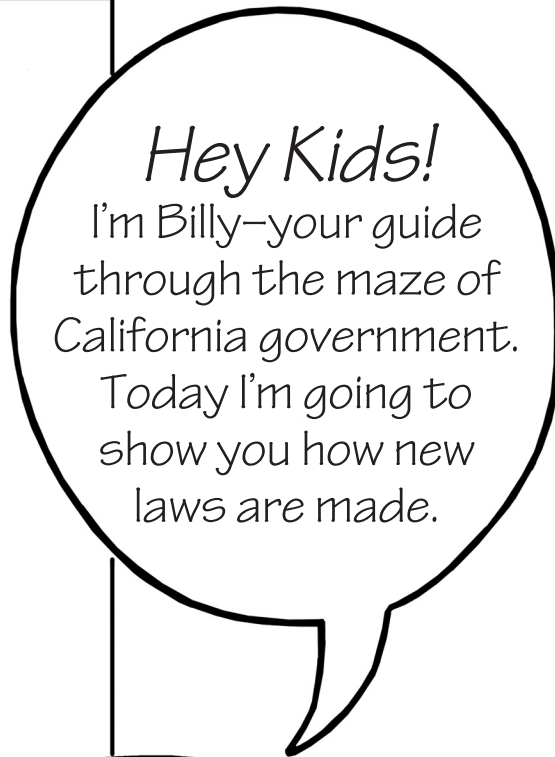
To learn more, just follow your host “Billy.” He comes up with a fun idea, makes it into a bill and moves it through the Legislature.

Good luck and have fun learning about turning a good idea into a new law.

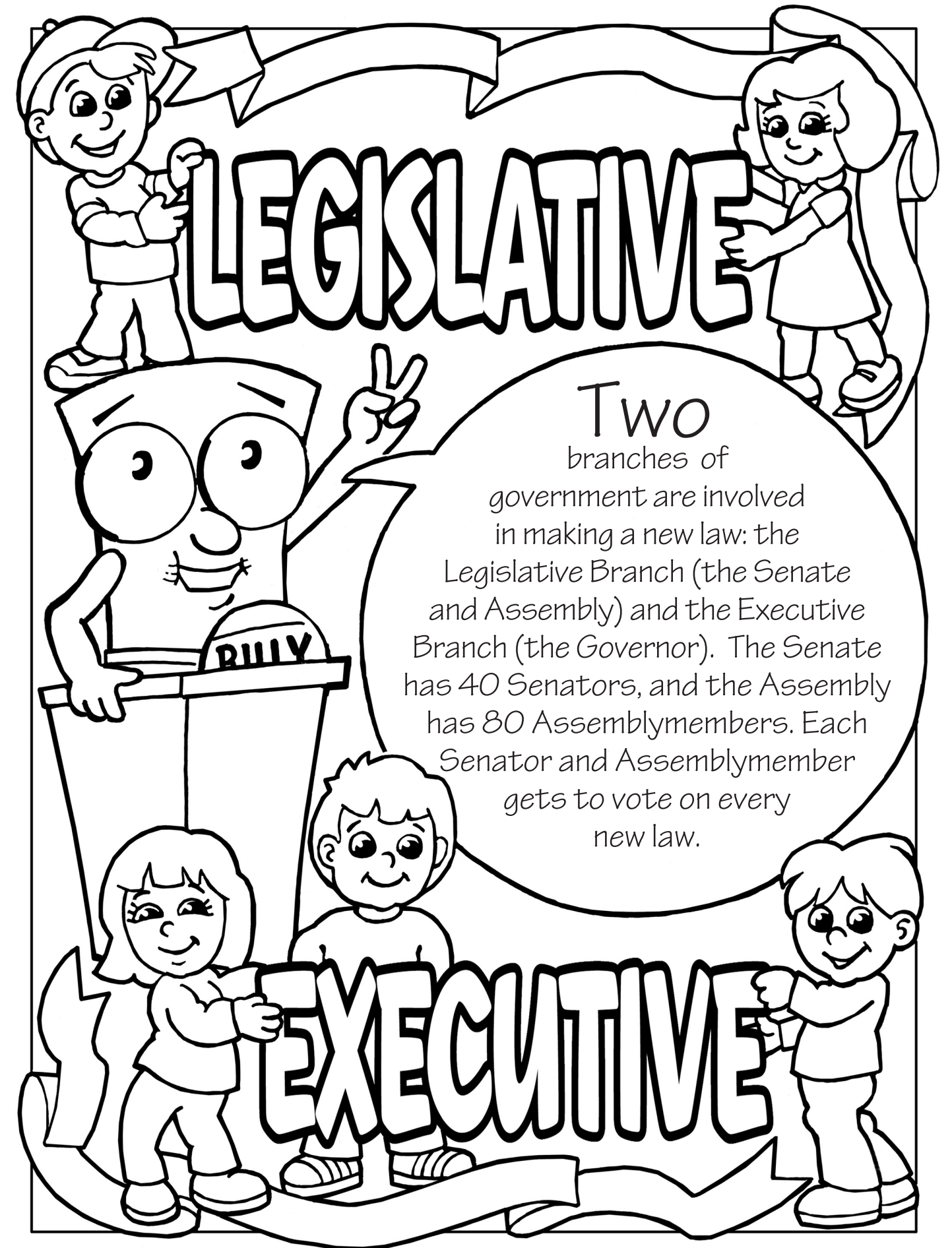
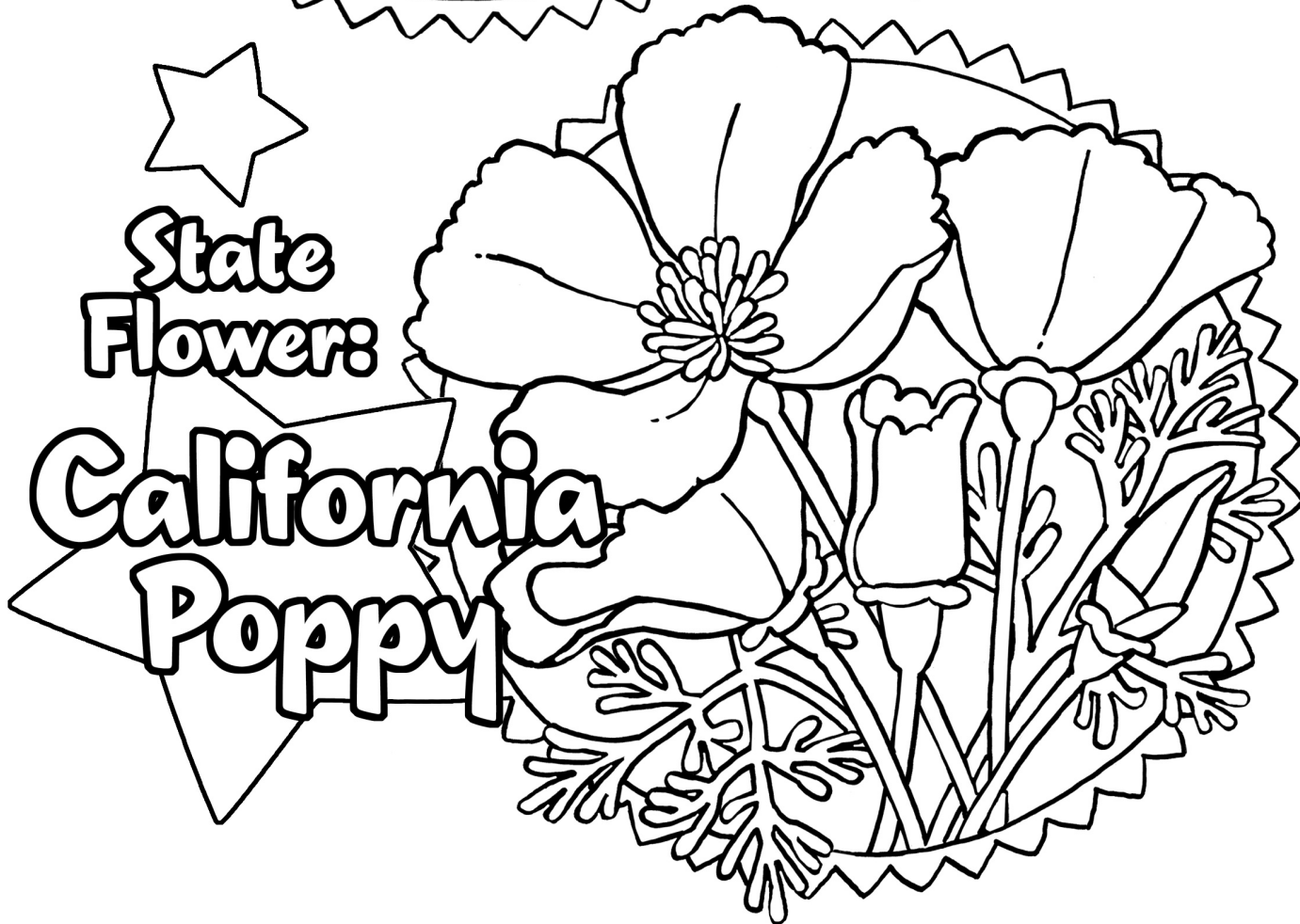
Sincerely,

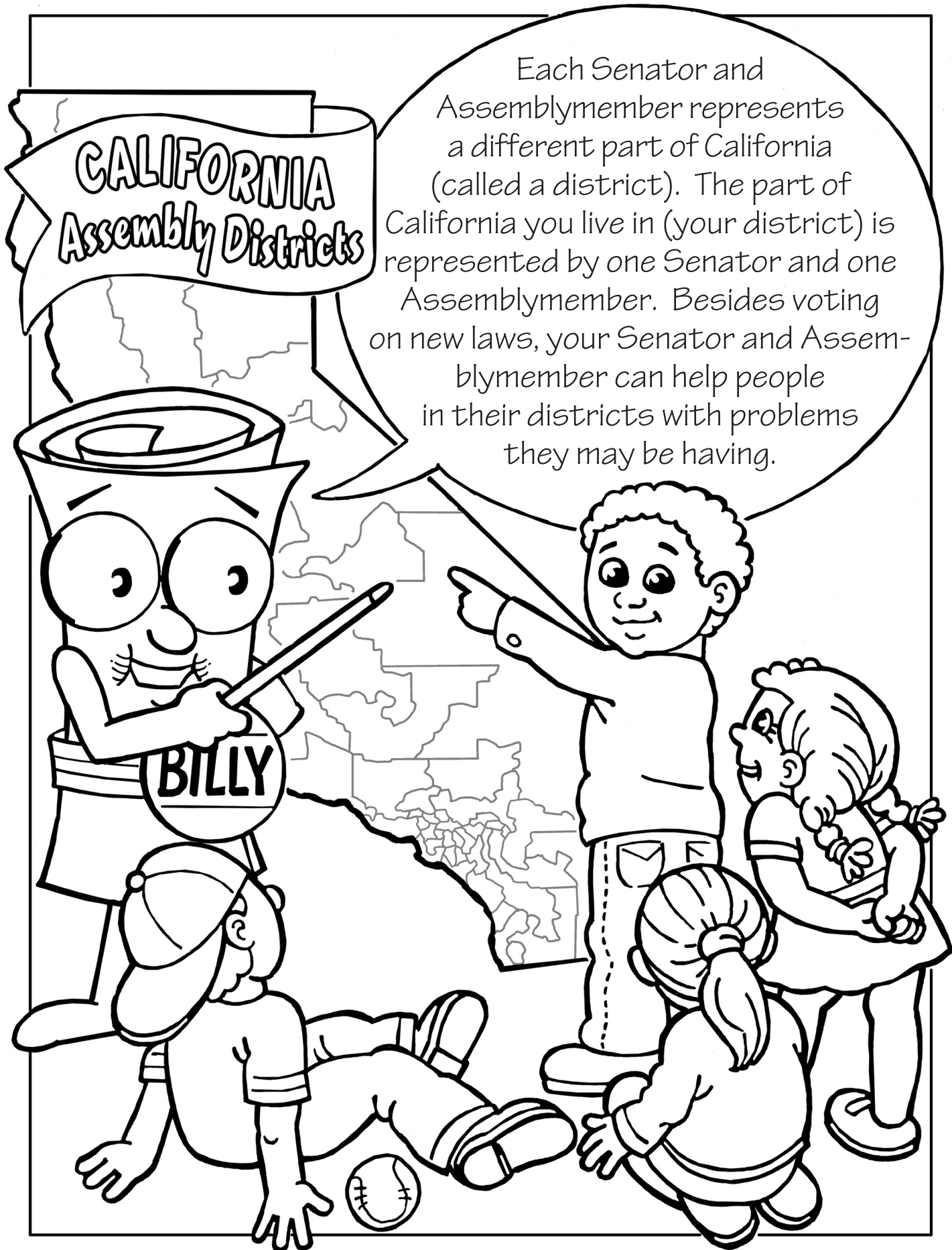
*Gloria Negrete McLeod*

Gloria Negrete McLeod  
Assemblymember, 61st District





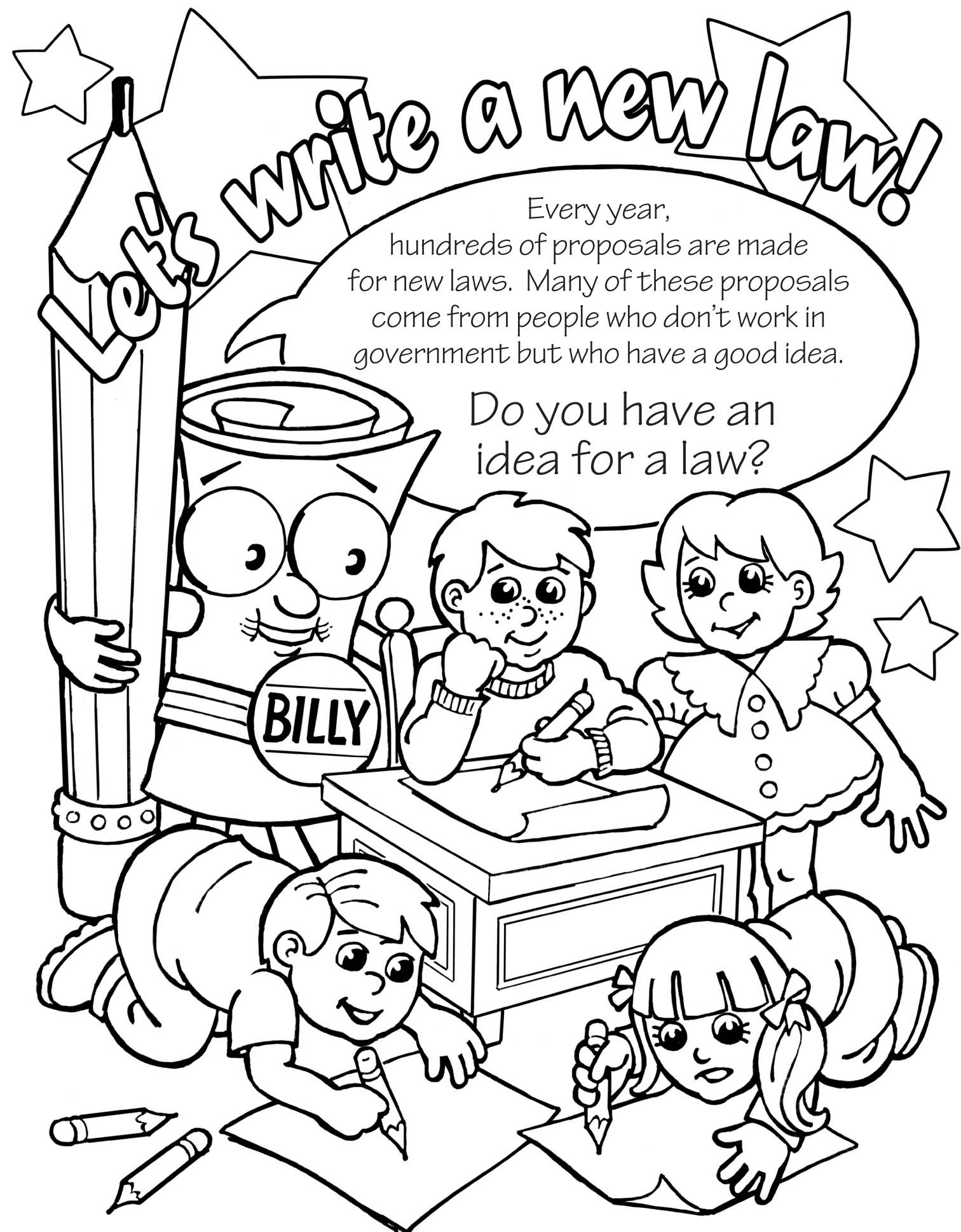
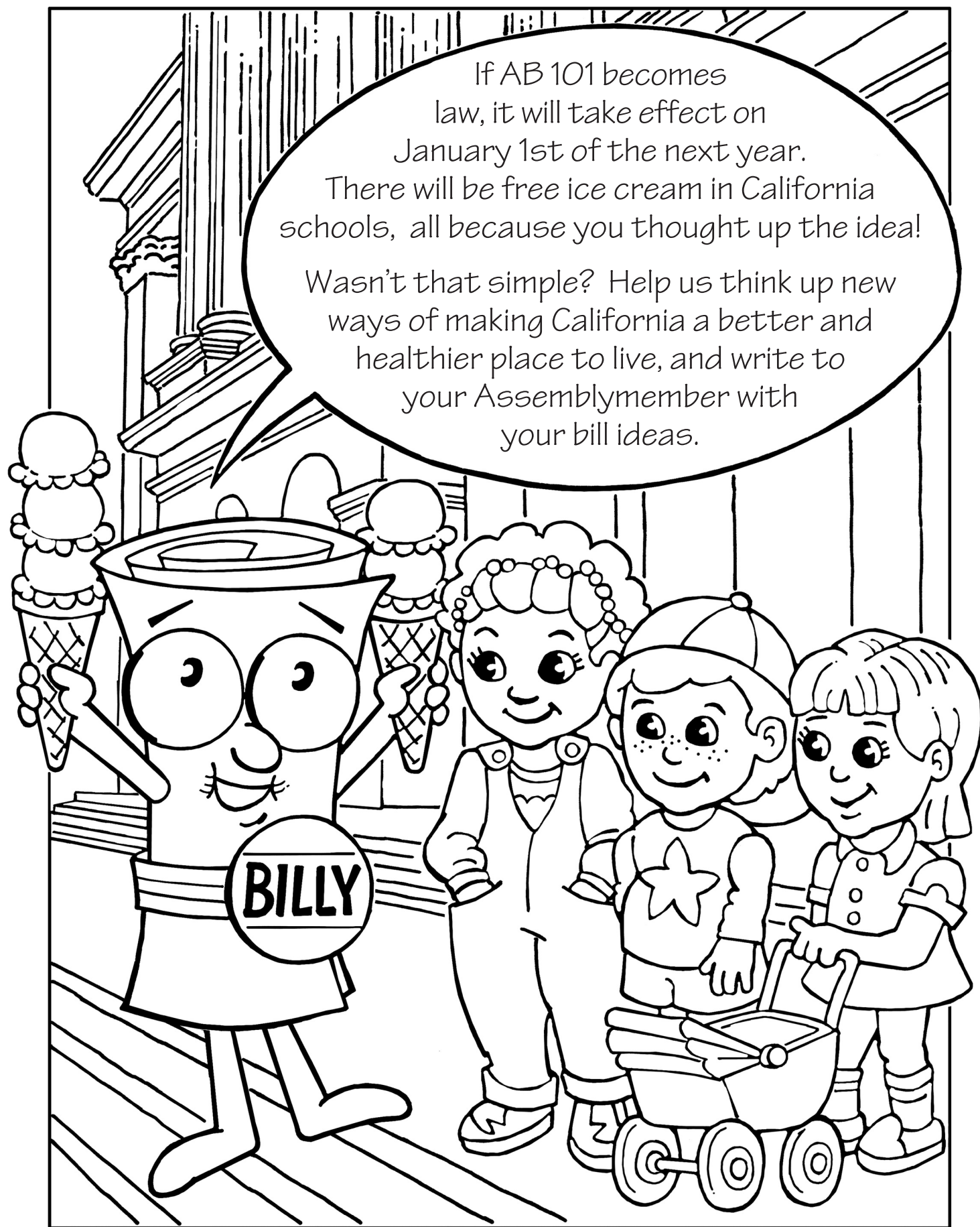




Find the following words from the word bank in the puzzle.  
They may be up, down, horizontal, diagonal, upside down or backwards.

- |          |        |         |
|----------|--------|---------|
| ASSEMBLY | LAW    | SPEAKER |
| BILL     | PASS   | VETO    |
| CAPITOL  | SENATE | VOTE    |
| GOVERNOR |        |         |









Hey!

How about a law requiring  
free ice cream in all schools??

Now that we have an idea, we need to  
find a Senator or Assemblymember to  
be the author of a bill based on our idea.

We can start by asking the Senator  
or Assemblymember from  
our district.

AB 101 becomes a law!

If AB 101 gets passed by both  
the Assembly and Senate, it will be sent  
to the Governor. There are three things the  
Governor can do with your bill.

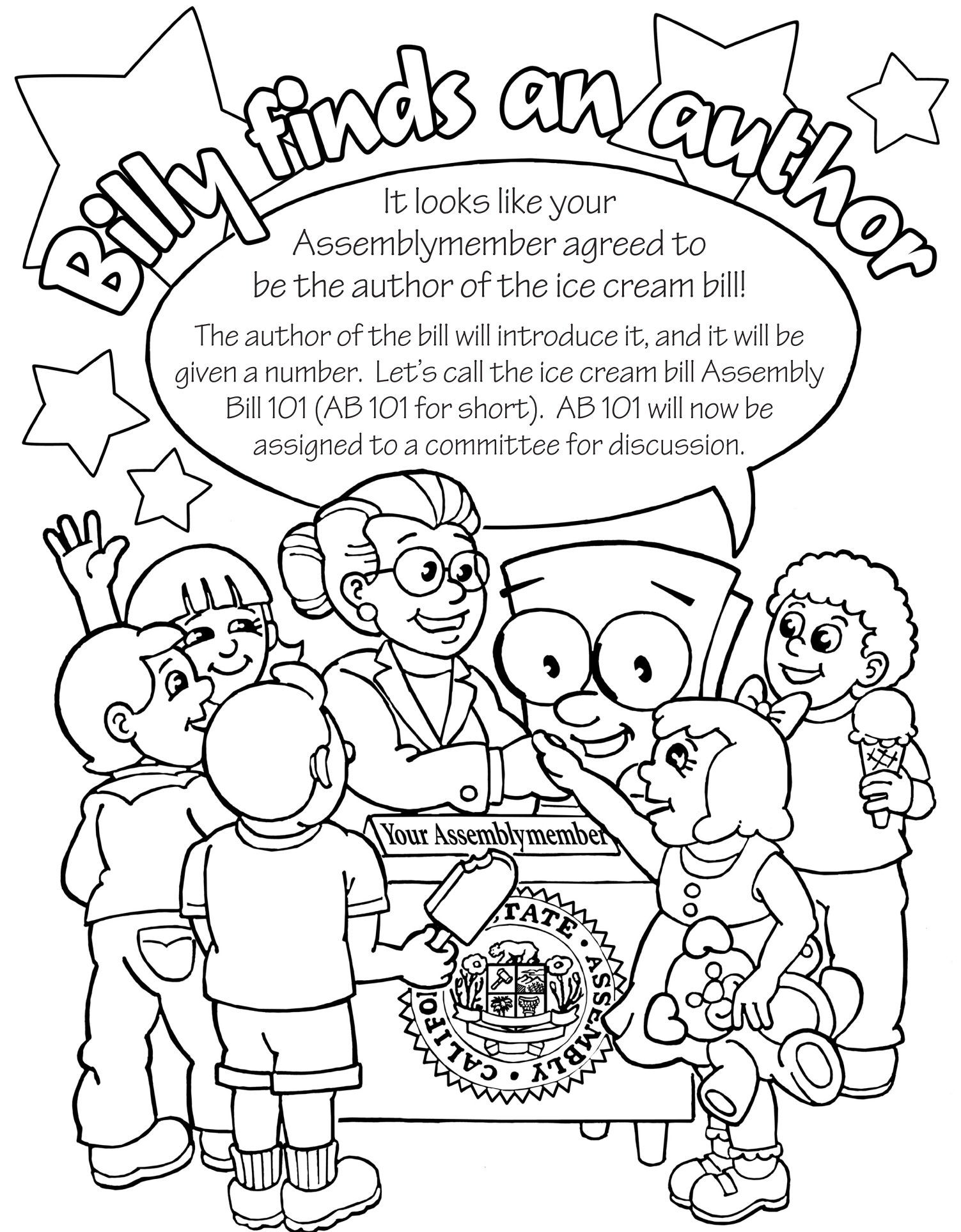
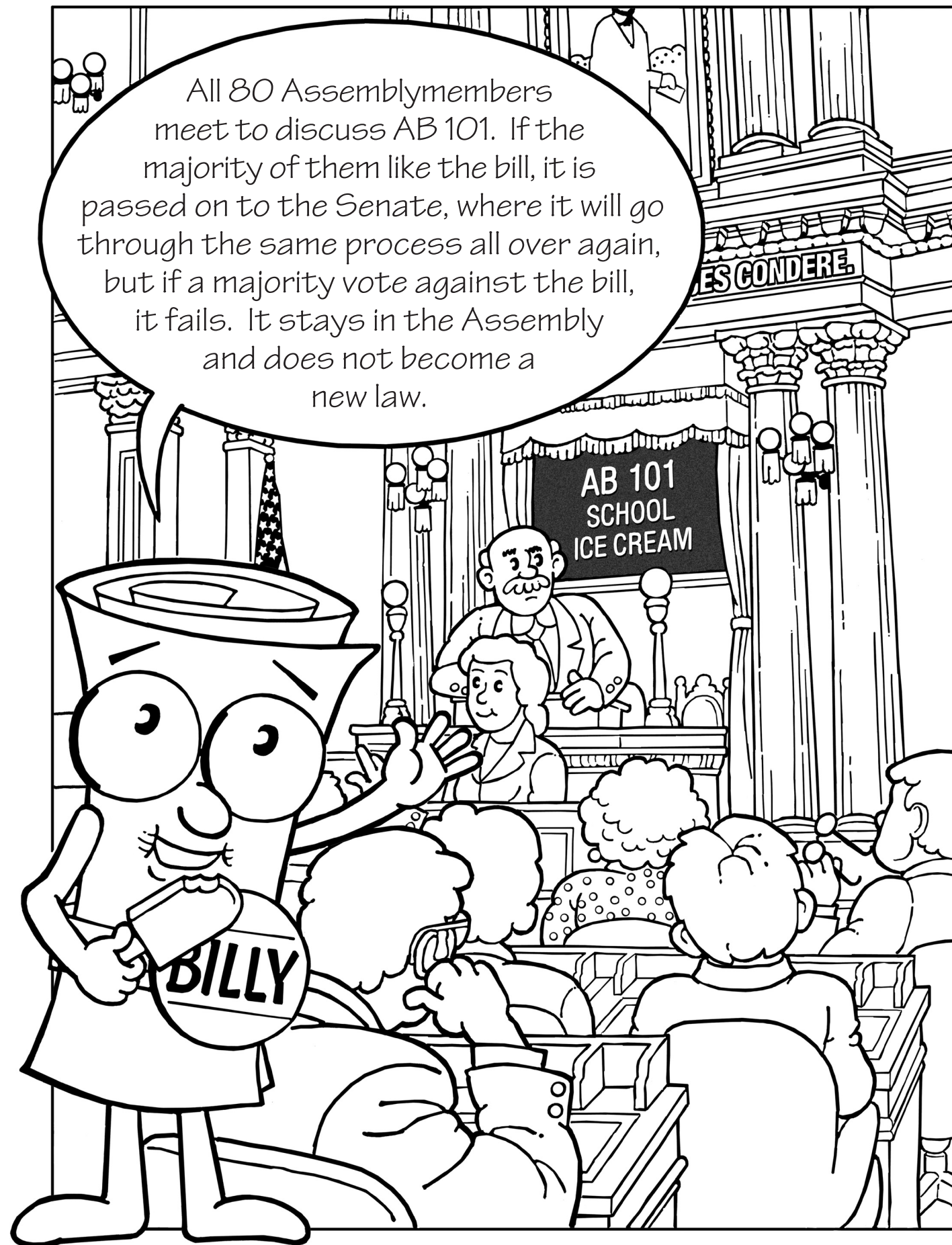
SIGN IT – It becomes law.

VETO IT – It does not become law.

DO NOTHING – After 10 days, it becomes  
law automatically without  
a signature.









# An Assembly Committee

is a small group of Assemblymembers.

Committees hold public hearings where anyone can come and discuss a bill. There are many committees, and each one discusses all of the bills on a specific subject – for example, one committee will discuss bills about cars and one committee will discuss bills about doctor visits. Your bill on ice cream will be assigned to the Committee on School Food.



After a bill is discussed at a hearing, the committee members vote on whether it would be a good law. If the majority of the committee's members like the bill, they pass it and send it to the full Assembly for another vote.

Guess what? The committee liked the ice cream bill. AB 101 has passed!

